



PRESS RELEASE

Riverside Police Department • 4102 Orange Street • Riverside, CA 92501
Phone (951) 826-5147 • Fax (951) 826-2593

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Thursday, November 1, 2007
Contact: Steven Frasher, Press Information Officer
Phone: (951) 826-5147

Two women killed by train-vehicle collision

Riverside, CA -- Two young women died as a result of massive bodily injuries sustained after a stranded vehicle they had just abandoned was struck by a train and dragged over the victims by the force of the crash, early Thursday morning.

Riverside Police Department officers responded to Mission Inn Avenue and the Union Pacific Railroad tracks near the intersection with Santa Fe Avenue at 12:55 a.m., where the northbound freight train came to rest following the collision.

According to initial investigation, it appears the 1996 Honda Passport had turned southbound from Mission Inn Avenue onto a crushed rock shoulder that parallels the train tracks. After driving approximately 40-50 yards, the driver attempted a U-turn, causing the vehicle to become stuck in the gravel and partially overhanging the train track. The two women got out of the vehicle and were attempting to walk back to Mission Inn Avenue. The train struck the vehicle, wedging it between the train and a tall block wall that runs adjacent to the tracks, and dragged the vehicle the length of the block wall to the intersection. The women, who were some distance away from the collision point, were trapped between the train and the block wall. The women were crushed by the vehicle as it was dragged over them.

The victims were transported by American Medical Response ambulance to Riverside Community Hospital, where one victim, an 18-year-old female, was pronounced dead. The second victim, a 23-year-old female, died at approximately 6:30 a.m. Both victims were residents of San Bernardino. Identities are not released pending notification of next of kin.

###

